Attorney Docket No.: 002818/PDD/PSI/JW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE D

ion of: Suketu A. Parikh

) Group Art Unit 2813 JUL | 0 2001 Examiner: Pham T. TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Serial No.: 09/244,788

Filed: 2/5/99

For: Dual Damascene Misalignment Tolerant Techniques For Vias And Sacrificial

Etch Segments

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE in the above-identified application, in response to the Office Action mailed 1/10/01. The fee has been calculated as shown below.

> (Col.2) (Col.3) (Col.1)

| | CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | | HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | PRESENT EXTRA | RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------|----------------|
| TOTAL | 27 | MINUS | 42 | 0 | | \$0.00 |
| INDEPENDENT | 3 | MINUS | 6 | 0 | | \$0.00 |
| FIRST | PRESENTATION | OF | MULTIPLE DEPENDENT | CLAIM | <u> </u> | |

TOTAL ..\$0.00

If the entry in Col.1 is less than the entry in Col.2, "0" is written in Col.3.

If the "Highest Number Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, "20" is written in this space. If the "Highest Number Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, "3" is written in this space. "20" is written in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col.1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.)

- No additional Filing Fee is required. Х
- Petition to extend time to respond. X
- Extension Fee \$890.00 Х
- Other. Please specify:
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$890.00 to Deposit Account No. Х 50-1074
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be X required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1074. A duplicate of this transmittal is enclosed.

Please address all correspondence to:

PATENT COUNSEL

APPLIED MATERIALS, INC. Legal Affairs Department

P.O. Box 450 A

Santa Clara, CA 95052

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being Deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Express Mail Receipt No. _ EL266340226US

Date of Deposit 6-29-2001

Signature: Sun Muha

Respectfully Submitted

Robert W. Mulcahy

Registration No. 25,436

0 Dated:

Attorney Docket No.: 002818/PDD/F

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE GLOGY CENTER 2800

In re Application of:

Suketu A. Parikh

Serial No.: 09/244,788

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For: Dual Damascene Misalignment Tolerant Techniques For Vias And

Sacrificial Etch Segments

) Group:) Art Unit: 2813) Examiner: Pham T. Amendment and Response to Office Action Mailed 1/10/01 PATENT COUNSEL

) APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.) Legal Affairs Department

) P.O. Box 450 A

Santa Clara, CA 95052

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This amendment and response under 37 CFR §1.11 concerning the aboveidentified patent application is in response to the Office Action mailed January 10, 2001.

AFFIRMATION OF ELECTION OF SPECIES

Applicant hereby affirms his election of claims 1-32, in response to the Examiner's restriction requirement.

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2-4,